

212209US0PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :

AKIHITO SHIZUNO ET AL : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLICATION:  
( Based on PCT/JP01/00976)

FILED: HEREWITH :

FOR: BULKY SHEET AND PROCESS FOR  
PRODUCING THE SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 18, lines 24-31, please replace the paragraph with the following paragraph.

A 100 mm long and 15 mm wide specimen was cut out of the bulky sheet along the direction perpendicular to the fiber orientation direction. The length of the specimen La (mm) in the longitudinal direction thereof was measured. Then, a weight weighing 500 g was put on the entire area of the specimen. After 5 minutes later, the weight was removed and the length of the specimen Lb (mm) in the longitudinal direction thereof was again measured. The bending ratio (%) is calculated from  $(Lb-La)/La \times 100$ . In case where the



REMARKS

The specification has been amended to include material omitted during translation.

The specification has been amended to correct a clerical error. No new matter is believed to have been added. An action on the merits and allowance of claims is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Serial No: \_\_\_\_\_

Amendment Filed on:

8-31-2001IN THE SPECIFICATION

--A 100 mm long and 15 mm wide specimen was cut out of the bulky sheet along the direction perpendicular to the fiber orientation direction. The length of the specimen  $L_a$  (mm) in the longitudinal direction thereof was measured. Then, a weight weighing 500 g was put on the entire area of the specimen. After 5 minutes later, the weight was removed and the length of the specimen  $L_b$  (mm) in the longitudinal direction thereof was again measured. The bending ratio (%) is calculated from  $(L_b - L_a)/L_a \times 100$ . In case where the specimen contains a network sheet, in particular a net shown in Fig. 1,  $L_a$  and  $L_b$  are desirably measured as follows. A 100mm long along the direction perpendicular to the fiber orientation and 100 mm wide specimen was cut out of the bulky sheet. The length of the specimen  $L_a$  (mm) in the longitudinal direction thereof was measured. Then the network sheet was cut by a cutter at the points between the intersection of the network sheet along the direction perpendicular to the fiber orientation (attention was paid so as not to cut the fibers). The specimen was then cut into a strip having 15 mm width along the fiber orientation. The weight was put on the strip [after the network sheet was cut], and then the measurement of the length  $L_b$  was carried out.--